

## **Situation Report #2**

This report covers the second operational period, occurring on April 18, 2013 at 07:00 hours through 19:00 hours. Activities include developments within this operational period regarding the explosion which occurred at the West Fertilizer Company dba Adair Grain, Inc. The facility is located at 1471 Jerry Mashek Drive, West (McLennan County), TX 76691. TCEQ Region 9 Office Emergency Response Staff responded to the incident at 2200 hours on April 17, 2013 and have remained on site since the initial response.

1. Mr. Matt Vaughn and Mr. Don Alexander (TCEQ Region 9 Staff), along with Ms. Michelle Havelka and Mr. Jerrell Cooper (TCEQ Region 4 Staff), staffed this operational period.
2. The fires located at the facility were significantly reduced by the beginning of the operational period. Several hot-spots remain at the facility and are being monitored. A request has been made to address the hot-spots prior to the initiation of the remediation activities.
3. A request was made for a TCEQ staff member to man their position at the EOC.
4. The focus of today's efforts was tank mitigation; specifically, two 12,000 gallon anhydrous ammonia tanks. One tank breached by the explosion did not contain any product. The other tank was leaking and contained approximately 3,000 to 4,000 gallons of product. Two open valves (the source of the leaks) were successfully closed. The pressure release valve was evaluated and determined to be operational. Afterwards, the tank was monitored for leaks; results were non-detect. After a period of time with no leaks being detected, the tank was declared to be stable. Product off-loading activities are expected to take 12 to 24 hours and will be accomplished by off-loading material to a flare or scrubber device. Off-loading schedule is to be determined.
5. A potential concern was raised regarding asbestos exposure for personnel at the site once remediation activities begin. Asbestos exposure from onsite debris is believed to be minimal due to consumption of asbestos fibers during the fire.
6. The ASPECT flyover was conducted at approximately 12:00 hours. Ammonia concentration levels were detected at 3 ppm and 6 ppm.
7. Damage to the Public Water System main delivery line was identified, which resulted in low pressure of a section of the delivery system. The City of West issued a boil water notice to the public for that section of the system.
8. The recovery area was cleared for commencement of activities to take place. Recovery was initiated towards the end of the operational period and expected to continue through the night.
9. Continuous monitoring will continue to evaluate off-site emissions during recovery and upcoming remediation activities.

More information will be provided as it becomes available.